



Youth and Kids Collective Newsletter



Volume 1: Winter edition

THANK-YOU for reading the First Edition of the YK Collective Newsletter. This is not your typical newsletter. It is based on our RDLUC Youth and kids perspectives and experiences! We Hope you enjoy it!

If you like to reach out to us our email is : rdluckidsministry@gmail.com

Message from YK Collective teachers:

What's in a Name?

Sunday School here at RDLUC was formerly known as Kids and Youth Zone. We have transitioned the name to be Youth and Kids collective (YK Collective). We made this decision because, just as our programming has changed and evolved to support our children, our name has changed to reflect the lens we see Sunday school through. A place where there are no pre identified separations.

Something unique about our YK Collective is that we have adopted a 'one room schoolhouse' style setting, grouping kids from ages 5 to 16 together each Sunday. We have found great success in this model. Our children and youth enjoy engaging with each other and appreciate the unique skills and gifts each age level brings to the work each Sunday. As we grow and cultivate what the YK Collective looks like, we will continue to plan and adapt using feedback from our children and youth.



Over the last year, leaders Shelby Chibry (Main Teacher) and Lori Wilson (Education Director) have been leading our children in cultivating what community and stewardship look like to them, and developing how we can share our unique gifts with the congregation. Our vision and mission currently is to build stronger connections to our community. We look forward to continuing connecting with you through our different upcoming projects and through our YK Collective Newsletter.

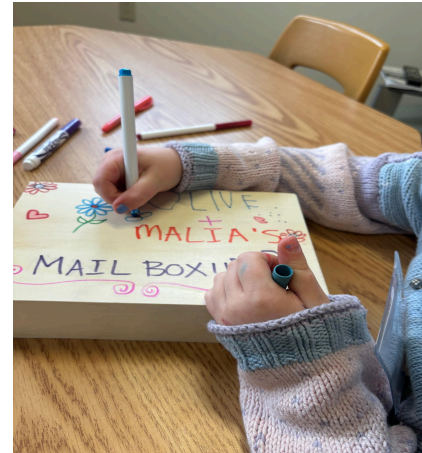
YK Collective News:

The Art of a Letter:

The idea of ‘Servant Leadership’ has guided us in creating our programming in our Sunday work. In these meetings, we share scripture, mental wellness lessons, prayer and gratitude activities. We also have time set out to work on ongoing projects.

Our past projects include:

- Our ‘Food Sunday Takeover’ where the kids worked to bring awareness to the growing issue of food insecurity in Calgary.
- Our ‘Wish Tree Christmas Takeover’ where kids worked to create a donation project to support our vulnerable population in Calgary by collecting money to be used for food and care outreach programs hosted by the Fish Creek United Church.



As we rang in the New year, we started new projects in our Sunday meetings. We have been creating and exploring what it means to be part of our congregation and how we can create positive relationships. One of the ways we are creating positive relationships is through **Our Collective Kindness Mail**.

Members of our congregation are encouraged to write the YK Collective a ‘pen pal’ letter. These letters can be dropped off at the church in our mail basket at the front entrance, emailed to us at rdluckidsministry@gmail.com, or mailed to us at the church.

We would love to hear from you in a letter. Please see our newsletter to see some ideas of what you can write to us.



Quotes That inspire Us:

We believe reflection and prayer are important parts of understanding and connecting to others. Mrs. Shelby often shares quotes in class. When we reflect and share, we take time from our busy schedules to bring calmness in our day.

Here are two quotes from one of our reflections:

“Teaching is not about answering questions but about raising questions – opening doors for them in places that they could not imagine.” ~ Yawar Baig

“Empathy has no script. There is no right way or wrong way to do it. It's simply listening, holding space, withholding judgment, emotionally connecting, and communicating that incredibly healing message of 'you're not alone.’” ~ Brene Brown

Scripture We Love:

Each week we study scriptures, and we have shared two of our favourite passages that we are currently using. Scriptures help us to have conversations that spark reflections and revelations in our collective, helping them to grow in their understanding of who they are as individuals.

Galatians 5:22-23:

When we have the Holy Ghost, we feel love, joy, and peace.

The Holy Ghost is often also called the Holy Spirit or the Spirit of the Lord.

1 Corinthians 13:4-8a (ESV)

Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth.

As we begin to understand our personal spiritual connections, we are unpacking what the spirit of the Lord looks like, and how we can incorporate this spirit into our daily lives.

Mindful Moment:

Each Sunday when we gather as a YK Collective, we start our time with a grounding exercise. We wanted to share with you one of our grounding exercises.

The exercise below, *Rose, Bud, Thorn*, has helped us to create time and space for gratitude by reflecting on things that were positive and happy in our week, while also holding space for growth and perseverance by reflecting on times when things felt difficult.

ROSE, BUD, THORN

REFLECT & SHARE FOR BETTER RELATIONSHIPS

SEL TIP

Rose: something good that's happened recently, something that you're proud of, or a success that you've had

Bud: something that you're looking forward to or a new idea that you want to explore

Thorn: a challenge that you're facing or something that you need help with